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CPW Report No. 63 -- COMMUNIST CHINA

(Feb. 23 - Mar. 1, 1953)

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1. (1b) Sino-Soviet Friendship: Peking, reported (Feb. 24) that the SSFA and VOKS honored Soviet Armed Forces Day with a reception in Peking, at which speakers praised Sino-Soviet Friendship and called for "stronger fraternal ties to protect world peace." Peking said in numeral code (Feb. 27) that the SSFA sent a delegation to celebrate Bulgarian-Soviet friendship activities.

Mukden reported (Feb. 24) that the local SSFA held a Soviet Armed Forces Day reception, in the course of which the organization's deputy chairman thanked USSR troops for liberating the Northeast. Mukden said (Feb. 24) that the Soviet General Headquarters in Dairen celebrated the occasion, with speakers calling for closer Sino-Soviet cooperation. Premier Chou laid a wreath at the tomb of the Soviet hero in Dairen.

Chungking stated (Feb. 25) that Southwest military units celebrated Soviet Army Day, with speakers urging emulation of Soviet military science to build a strong Chinese Army. The platform was decorated with portraits of Stalin and Mao.

2. (1c) Russian Superiority: Peking announced in numeral code (Feb. 24) that physicist Chien San-chang would lead a delegation of Chinese scientists on a tour of the USSR "to learn Soviet organization and study Soviet research." Peking stated (Feb. 25) that the Southwest Engineering Bureau saved large sums by adopting Soviet designs for locating trusses, and added (Feb. 26) that by adopting the advice of Soviet experts, (Chingshan) power plant workers reduced soot from low-grade coal. Peking said (Feb. 24) that officers and men in the Central-South Military District and the Fourth Field Army were studying progressive Soviet military science, and added (Feb. 26) that North China workers were "emulating the spirit of the CPV" by adopting Soviet methods.

Shanghai asserted (Feb. 24) that Yungshing Appliance Company engineers adopted Russian methods to save 500 million yuan in making automatic transformers, and added (Feb. 28) that local steel mill workers had increased their efficiency by studying Russian smelting methods at the Taiyuan steel mill. Hofei stated (Feb. 24) that Anhwei Construction Company workers improved the quality of their work by adopting Soviet methods.

Chungking announced (Feb. 25) that Southwest mineral prospecting cadres had been charged with "failure to adopt Soviet methods," resulting in much waste, including the purchase of 10 generators when only one was needed.

3. (2a) War Burdens: Peking declared (Feb. 23) that "in spite of heavy bombings in January," railway workers at the Korean front were able to prevent enemy attempts to wreck transport. Peking added (Feb. 21) that 857 Chengchow Railway Administration workers had left for service at the front. Peking reported (Feb. 25) that a fourteen-man medical team left Canton for the Korean front, and Chungking said (Feb. 28) that 30 Chengtu automotive workers had volunteered for Korean service "in response to the RAAK drive."

Kunming said (Feb. 27) that ceremonies held for three CPV heroes buried at Mukden stressed the need to "emulate these heroes and increase production." Chungking asserted (Feb. 23) that Szechwan women had become an important factor in farm production, with 8 million of them working in the fields and 70,000 acting as mutual aid team leaders. However, many men who had not overcome their feudalistic thinking felt that women should only cook and sew. Cadres in charge of the Cheng Chi-ping mutual aid team failed to pay women the same wages as men, causing women to refuse to work, with resultant losses in farm production.

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4. (2c) Trade Problems: Peking said in numeral code (Feb. 28) that China had made agreements to send food to Ceylon, India, and Chile in exchange for rubber and other goods. Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Hungary had completed trade agreements with nations all over the world, showing that "capitalist nations see the advantages of trading with the People's Democracies."

Peking announced (Feb. 25) that China and Mongolia had signed a loan agreement which should "greatly improve economic relations." Peking said in numeral code (Feb. 27) that American refusal to allow Japanese trade with China had caused an economic crisis in Japan.

5. (3a) Russification Moves: Peking announced in numeral code (Feb. 28) that Chairman Mao had promulgated the Organic Law for this year's general elections "and ordered its implementation at once." It was pointed out, however, that the masses could neither read nor write and were unfamiliar with voting procedures.

Shanghai stated (Feb. 23) that hundreds of private contractors had joined State construction companies, as they now "could see the advantages of working for the State." Formerly their capital was too small and they could not get sufficient supplies of materials.

6. (3a) Basic Construction: Peking announced (Feb. 26) that a privately operated paper mill in Wuchou, Kwangsi, had started producing three tons of paper daily. Peking said (Feb. 28) that 118 miles of roadbed had been completed between Chengtu and Mienyang, with rails to be laid before the flood season. Mukden announced (Mar. 1) that more than one thousand technicians had been reassigned "to positions more suitable to their talent and training."

Hofei reported (Feb. 27) that Huainan Mining Administration cadres had been ordered to improve their knowledge of statistics in order to promote basic construction. Tsinan said (Feb. 25) that local railway cadres were guilty of building 34 miles of substandard railway tracks, with consequent reductions of train speeds from 66 to 50 miles per hour.

7. (3a) Bureaucratic Weaknesses: Peking said in numeral code (Feb. 28) that the Communications Ministry had ordered "a struggle against bureaucracy." Cadres in the Shanghai Mining Supply Company were charged with incompetence because no one knew how much lumber was stored or how much the company was losing. Poor leadership and other shortcomings were exposed in an investigation of the East China Construction Company.

Antung announced (Feb. 23) that the Liaotung Party Committee had launched a large-scale attack on bureaucracy and authoritarianism in state organizations. Antung said (Feb. 27) that cadres at Liaotung factory No. 3 had bought large quantities of supplies that could not be used and were left to rot. Chinchow reported (Feb. 25) that local post office cadres used all kinds of shady methods to sell subscriptions and postcards, such as coercing people to buy and forcing each worker to take 10 postcards as part of his pay.

Hangchow stated (Feb. 27) that Chekiang Textile Company cadres had been charged with poor administration and mismanagement, which has led to excessive overtime and extra work. Kunming reported (Feb. 27) that Yunnan cadres had made demands upon farmers in violation of Government regulations.

8. (3a) Counterrevolutionary Indications: Peking announced (Feb. 25) that the East China Government had called for a strengthening of coastal defenses. Hofei reported (Feb. 27) that landlord Chu Ming-te of Shucheng Hsien, Anhwei, had been jailed for setting forest fires. Cadres in Chu Hsien had been charged with failure to protect forests from fires.

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Chungking stated (Feb. 23) that Sikang cadres had been ordered to guard against forest and grass fires, as 14 such fires had been started by "bad elements and charcoal burners." Chungking reported (Feb. 28) that militia units had been organized in 95 percent of Southwest China chu. Last year the militia captured nearly 8,000 rifles.

9. (3e) Agricultural Remolding: Peking asserted in numeral code (Feb. 27) that mutual aid team leaders in Hanning Hsien, Hupeh, had emphasized the profit motive instead of increasing production, losing 600 man-days of agricultural production through operation of a flour mill. Peking added in numeral code (Feb. 28) that North China agriculture models had been ordered to stick to production, "and not waste time attending meetings." Kunming (Feb. 24) said that Yunnan peasants had been urged to obtain loans from "public or private sources" to tide them over the winter.

10. (4) Sino-British Relations: Peking asserted (Feb. 24) that English college students were adopting resolutions demanding peace in Korea and opposing a blockade of China. Canton said (Feb. 27) that the local Relief Commission sent 300 million yuan to Hong Kong fire victims in January.

Kunming announced (Feb. 28) that the Canton Military Commission had taken over the property of the British Butterfield and Swire Company. Kunming reported (Feb. 28) that a strong protest had been lodged with Hong Kong for wresting the YUCHIUNG from Chinese People's Government authorities and turning it over to the Kuomintang bandits, the fifth fishing vessel illegally given to Chiang's men.

11. (4) Border Minorities: Peking announced in numeral code (Feb. 24) that People's Liberation Army units in Tibet had started spring planting. Chungking said (Feb. 23) that the Szechwan Tibetan Autonomous Region had received a message from the Dalai Lama congratulating the area for its progress and calling for "a struggle for the unification of nationalities."

Peking announced in numeral code (Feb. 25) that the Peking office of the Dalai Lama was formally opened on Feb. 24. Peking said (Feb. 24) that the Tibetan delegation presented gifts to Central Government officials after reporting on construction in Tibet. Peking in numeral code (Feb. 24) quoted Leosha Thubtuntarpa as saying he "saw with my own eyes" the strict observance of religious freedom in Inner Mongolia. He also promised to assure his people that "the happy life of the Mongolian people today will be the future happiness of the Tibetan people."

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